

## Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
HEW-04 AID-05 IGA-02 STR-04 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03  
ITC-01 H-01 /039 W  
-----081309Z 122850 /44  
P 081130Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0999

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BRASILIA 2796

PASS HMSTEINMETZ, FOOD AND SAFETY AND QUALITY SERVICE/USDA  
DLHUME, ADMINISTRATOR, FAS/USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, BR  
SUBJECT: EXPORT MEAT INSPECTION

REF: (A) STEINMETZ/MEARS APRIL 7 TELCON (B) BRASILIA 2527

1. AGATT WAS CALLED TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE APRIL 6 FOR MEETING WITH MINAG ALYSSON PAULINELLI TO DISCUSS MEAT INSPECTION PROBLEM OUTLINED REFTTEL B. SECRETARY GENERAL PAULO AFONSO ROMANO AND CHIEF OF CABINET MIGUEL AFONSO NETO ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETING. THESE ARE THE TOP THREE RANKING OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

2. MINISTER PAULINELLI TOLD AGATT THAT HE AND HIS TOP AIDES WERE VERY SURPRISED BY THE ISSURANCE OF THE LETTER OF ADVISEMENT EFFECTIVE APRIL 4 WITHOUT PRIOR WARNING BY THE USDA. HE CONSIDERS THIS ACTION EXTREMELY UNFORTUNATE AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT TO RESOLVE EXISTING DEFICIENCIES IF THEY HAD BEEN MAKE KNOWN TO HIM EARLIER THROUGH APPROPRIATE DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. HE PROCEEDED TO OUTLINE TO AGATT SPECIFIC ACTIONS THE GOB HAS TAKEN IN RECENT YEARS TO IMPROVE BRAZIL'S INSPECTION SYSTEM FOR MEAT CONSUMED DOESTICALLY AND FOR THE MEAT BEING  
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EXPORTED.

3. AGATT EXPLAINED LEGAL REQUIREMENTS UNDER US FEDERAL MEAT INSPECTION ACT AND SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES OF USDA PROGRAM REVIEW OFFICERS WHICH INCLUDE INCLUDE ISSURANCE OF LETTER OF WHEN SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES ARE BOSERVED IN PLANTS  
AUTHORIZED TO PROCESS MEAT FOR EXPORT TO THE US. AGATT ALSO

EXPLAINED SIGNIFICANCE OF LETTER OF ADVISEMENT AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE FINAL DECISION REGARDING MEAT IMPORTS FROM BRAZIL WOULD BE MADE BY HIGH LEVEL USDA OFFICIALS IN CONSULTATION WITH OFFICIALS OF THE DEPT OF STATE.

4. AGATT ALSO INFORMED MIN PAULINELLI THAT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR HIS MINISTRY TO INFORM THE USDA OF THE STEPS THEY HAVE ALREADY TAKEN OR INTEND TO TAKE TO CORRECT THE DEFICIENCIES NOTED BY THE US PROGRAM REVIEW OFFICERS. MIN PAULINELLI INFORMED AGATT THAT A LETTER WITH THIS INFORMATION WOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE EMBASSY WITHIN 24 HOURS.

5. THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF THE LETTER ADDRESSED TO DR. C. BELFIELD DELIVERED TO THE EMBASSY APRIL 7. ORIGINAL PORTUGUESE TEXT BEING AIR PUCHED TO DR. BELFIELD. AGATT STRONGLY RECOMMENDS CABLE REAPONSE TO DR. LUCIO MACEDO LETTER BE SENT TO EMBASSY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF DEEP CONSERN REGARDING INSPECTION PROBLEM EXPRESSED BY MIN PAULINELLI. CURRENT STATE OF US BRAZIL RELATIONS WERE OUTLINED TO DR. BELFIELD BY AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS. AGATT URGES CLOSE COORDINATION WITH DEPT OF STATE OFFICIALS INPREPARING RESPONSE.

BEGIN OF TEXT: IN ATTENTION TO YOUR LETTER OF THE FOURTH OF THIS MONTH (APRIL) RELATING TO (BRAZILIAN) FEDERAL SANITARY INSPECTION OF ESTABLISHMENTS WHTIH EXPORT MEAT PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA I WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY THE FOLLWOING POINTS:

1. BEGINNING IN 1972 THE FEDERAL GOVERNEMTN BEGAN TO TAKE  
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SANITARY CONTROL OF PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN IN THE COUNTRY, PROGRESSIVELY SUBSTITUTING THE STATE GOVERNMENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND SANITARY INSPECTION OF THESE PRODUCTS, EVEN AT THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL.

2. THIS WORK OBLIGED THE MINISTRY OF AGRIVULTURE TO INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY THE RESOURCES EMPLOYED IN THE FINANCING OF ITS RPROGRAM OF INSPECTION OF PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, PARITCULARLY THE CONTROL OF THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS; THESE RESOURCES HAVE GROWN FROM CR\$ 15 MILLION IN 1972 TO CR\$180 MILLION IN 1977, AND INCREASE OF 1200 PERCENT DURING THIS PERIOD.

3. ALTHOUGH THIS PROGRAM IS DIRECTED BASICALLY TOWARD THE CONTROL OF PRODUCTS MARKETED WITHIN THE COUNTRY, IT ALSO HAS A DIRECT CONNECTION WITH IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SANITARY INSPECTION OF EXPORTED PRODUCTS TO THE EXTENT THA THE ABOVE MENTIONED FINANCIAL RESOURCES DESTINED FOR DIPOA ARE REFLECTED IN BETTER HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00  
HEW-04 AID-05 IGA-02 STR-04 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03  
ITC-01 H-01 /039 W  
-----081308Z 122694 /43

P 081130Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1000

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BRASILA 2796

PASS HMSTEINMETZ, FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY SERVICE/USDA  
DLHUME, ADMINISTRATOR, FAS/USDA

4. AT THE SAME TIME, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS FINISHING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOB CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR, WHICH BEYOND HAVING PERMITTED A SUBSTANTAIL INCREASE IN THE SALARY LEVELS OF CIVIL SERVANTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL POSITIONS, IS PROGRESSIVELY PROVIDEING A NUMERICAL INCREASE IN THE EMPLOYMENT LEVELS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES IN RELATION TO THEIR TRUE NECESSITIES.

5. THIS PERMITTED DIPOA TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF ITS TECHNICIANS FROM 223 VETERINARIANS AND 1560 INSPECTION ASSISTANTS IN 1972 TO 616 VETERINARIANS AND 4250 ASSISTANTS TODAY; THIS ACCOMPANIED AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS AUTHORIZED TO XPORT MEAT PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED STTAATES FROM 8 IN 1972 TO 23 IN 1977.

6. THIS PROCESS, GIVEN ITS DYNASIMS WILL PERMIT DIPOA TO HACE A SIGNIFIANCE NUMBER OF NEW VETERINARIANS AND INSPECTION ASSISTANTS TO REINFORCE IN THE SHORT RUN, ITS INSPECTION TEAMS AT THE INDUSTRY ELVEL, GIVING PRIORITY TO EXPORTING ESTABLISHMENTS.

7. ON THE OTHER HAND THE NATIONAL INSITTUTE OF ANIMAL HEALTH IS BEING CONSTRUCTED IN MINAS GERAIS. THIS CENTRAL LABORATORY WILL  
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BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMMAND OF A SERIES OF NATIONAL LABORATORIES WHICH WORK IN THE AREA OF ANIMAL SANITATION AND SANITARY INSPECTION OF PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE CONTROL OF RESIDUALS AND CONTAMINANTS IN FOOD. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS INVESTING ON TTHE ORDER OF US10 MILLION IN THIS FACILITY.

8. AS TO THE SPECIFIC PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED DURING YOUR VISIT TO THE SLAUGHTERHOUSES OF THE STATE OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL, I CAN INFORM YOU THAT THESE WERE THE MOTIVE FOR A MEETING HELD IN BRASILIA BY MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE REPRESENTATIVES IN THAT STATE, THE CHIEF OF THE MINISTERIAL CABINET, AND THE DIRECTORS OF DIPOA AND DICAR.

9. IN THIS MEETING IT WAS DECIDED TO REINITIATE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PORTO ALEGRE LABORATORY IN THE NEAR FUTURE, AS WELL AS TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE SUPERVISION OF THE SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND EXPORTERS WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE PREPARATION OF A TECHNICAL REPORT IN 3 COPIES, ONE EACH FOR THE INSPECTION CHIEF OF THE INDUSTRY, THE HEAD OF THE REGIONAL GROUP IN THE STATE AND THE AGENCY HEADQUARTERS IN BRASILIA.

10. AS TO THE PROBLEM OF REINFORCING THE INDUSTRY INSPECTION TEAMS, I CAN INFORM YOU THAT I RECEIVED THE ASSURANCE OF HIGH AUTHORITIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE THAT THIS WILL BE RESOVED SHORTLY.

11. WITH ALL THE ABOVE MEASURES NOW TAKEN AND UNDER WA, AS WELL AS THE CONTINUED VISITS OF DR. ROBERT CHASE TO BRAZIL, WHO ACCORDING TO CURRENT LEGISLATION MUST VISIT EACH APPROVED FACILITY AT LEAST FROUR TIMES PER YEAR. I BELIEVE THAT THE VARIANCES FROM US STANDARDS POSSIBLY EXISTING WILL BE EASILY CORRECTED.

12. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE AND WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THESE MEASURES ARE CLARRIFIED AND CAPABLE OF RESOLVING THE INDICATED PROBLEMS I INFORM YOU THAT THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUTURE  
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JUDGES ITS UNNECESSARY TO REQUIRE THE INDUSTRY TO SEPARATE FROM THE 4TH OF THIS MONTH ON, ITS PRODUCTION FOR THE US MARKET. SIGNED BY DR. LUCIO TAVARES DE MACEDO/DIRECTOR GENERAL/DIPOA  
END TEXT.  
CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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